12¢
JOURNEY INTO
MYSTERY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MC
82
JULY
ONLY YOU STAND BETWEEN ME AND MY GOAL... AND SOON, HUMAN, YOU SHALL STAND NO MORE!
"THE SCORPION STRIKES!"
KIRBY
AYERS

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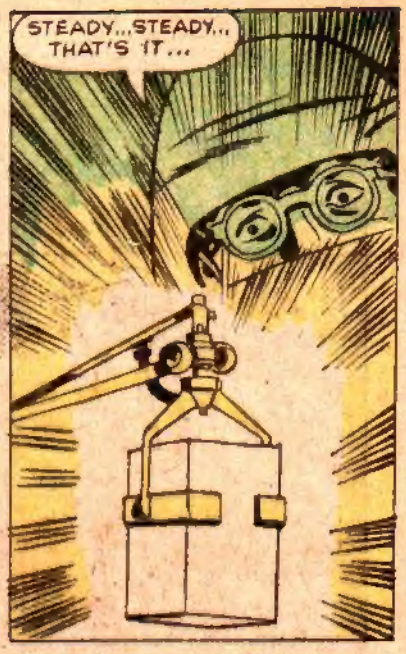
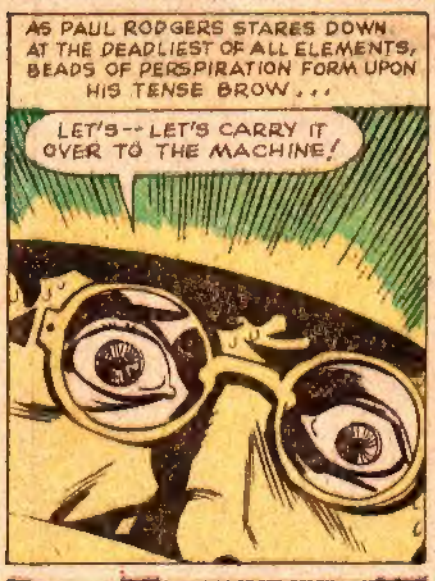
Ontology

the SCORPION
STRIKES!
V-741

A LABORATORY FOR ATOMIC RESEARCH IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE... WITH VERY SPECIAL PROBLEMS! AND THAT'S HOW OUR STORY BEGINS...
PAUL, THE NEW BISMUTH ISOTOPE JUST ARRIVED!
OKAY, LET'S EXAMINE IT!

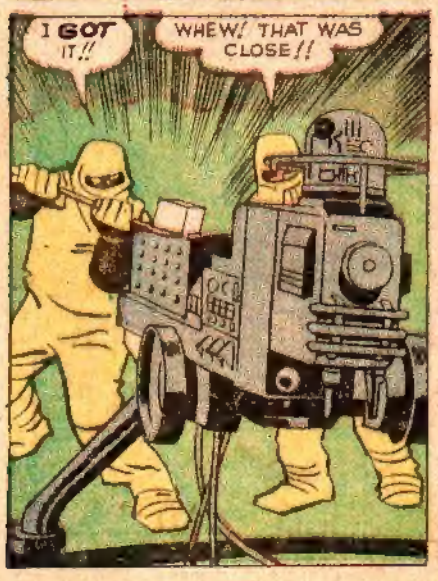
THERE IT IS -- THE MOST RADIOACTIVE ELEMENT EVER CREATED BY SCIENCE!
BE CAREFUL REMOVING THE LEAD ENCASEMENT!

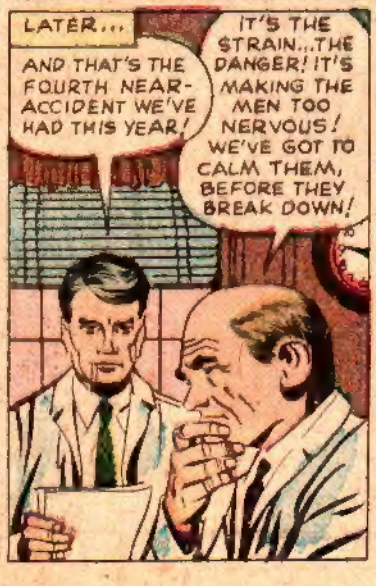

STEADY...STEADY... THAT'S IT...


AS PAUL RODGERS STARES DOWN AT THE DEADLIEST OF ALL ELEMENTS, BEADS OF PERSPIRATION FORM UPON HIS TENSE BROW...
LET'S -- LET'S CARRY IT OVER TO THE MACHINE!

SLOWLY -- CAUTIOUSLY -- THE TWO SCIENTISTS LIFT THE RADIOACTIVE BLOCK...
I GET THE JITTERS EVERY TIME WE HANDLE THESE ISOTOPES!
ME, TOO!

STEP AFTER STEP, JUST AS THEY REACH THE MACHINE---
PAUL -- YOU'RE LOSING YOUR GRIP!
THE BLOCK'S FALLING --!!

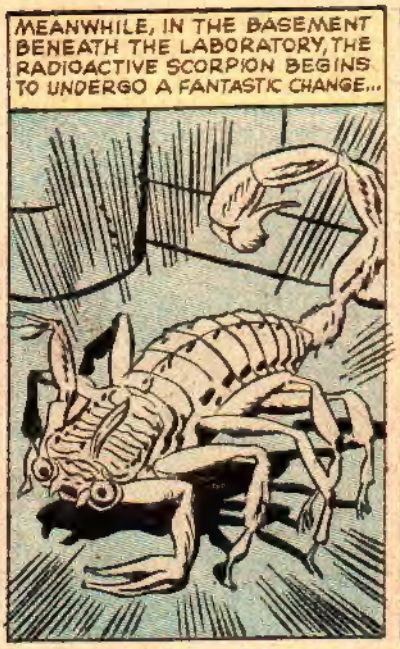

I GOT IT!!
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!!

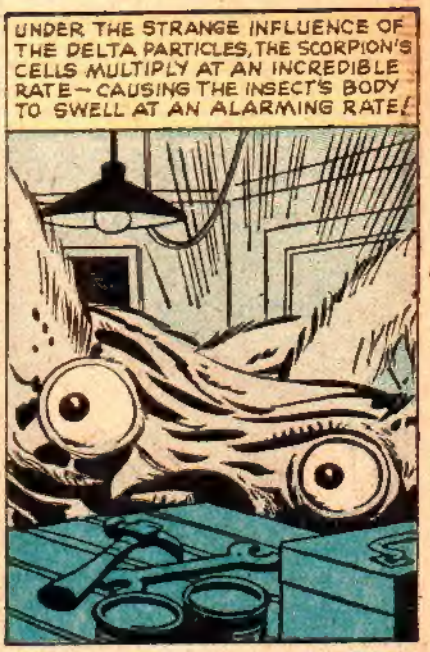

LATER...
AND THAT'S THE FOURTH NEAR-ACCIDENT WE'VE HAD THIS YEAR!
IT'S THE STRAIN...THE DANGER! IT'S MAKING THE MEN TOO NERVOUS! WE'VE GOT TO CALM THEM, BEFORE THEY BREAK DOWN!

BUT HOW? IF WE GIVE THEM TRANQUILIZERS, IT'LL MAKE THEM TOO SLUGGISH TO DO THEIR WORK!
THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER! I'M ASKING WASHINGTON TO SEND US A HYPNOTIST!

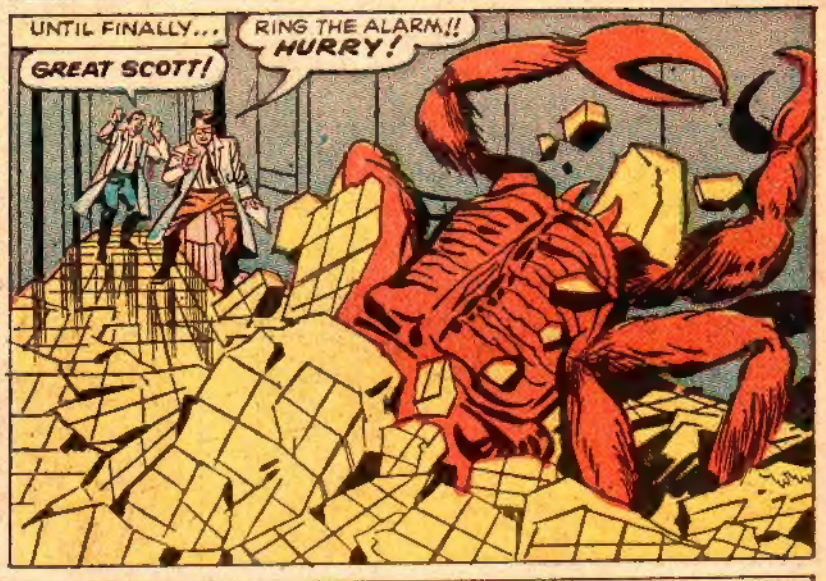
IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE SCIENTISTS PERFORM MANY EXPERIMENTS WITH THE DEADLY BLOCK OF BISMUTH...
LOOK--IT'S EMITTING A NEW KIND OF RADIATION!
DELTA PARTICLES! FANTASTIC! IT'S THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE EVER EXISTED ON EARTH!
BUT THEN, HUMAN TENSION AND ANXIETY AGAIN CAUSE AN ACCIDENT...
LOOK OUT! THE MACHINE'S SLIPPING!
BEFORE THE DEVICE CAN BE TURNED OFF, A HUGE DOSE OF DELTA RADIATION SHOOTS ACROSS THE FLOOR, HITTING A SMALL, UNNOTICED, CRAWLING CREATURE---A SCORPION!
SATURATED WITH DELTA ENERGY, THE INSECT SLITHERS INTO A NEARBY AIR VENT...
THERE! I'VE SWITCHED IT OFF!
GOOD THING NONE OF US WERE CAUGHT IN THE LINE OF FIRE! THERE'S NO TELLING HOW THAT RADIATION WOULD AFFECT ANY FORM OF LIFE!
HOURS LATER, THE HYPNOTIST ARRIVES AT THE INSTALLATION...
YOUR TASK WILL BE TO KEEP THE MEN CALM AND RELAXED, YET ALERT ENOUGH TO PERFORM THEIR INTRICATE JOBS!
I UNDERSTAND...
EDWARD BENTLEY IS A GOOD HYPNOTIST, AND HIS SUBJECTS GIVE HIM NO TROUBLE...
WATCH THE SPINNING COIN... THAT'S IT... YOU'RE GROWING DROWSY... YOU WANT TO SLEEP... SLEEP...
WHEN YOU AWAKEN, YOU WILL NO LONGER BE TENSE! YOU WILL FEEL WELL RESTED AND RELAXED! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
I UNDERSTAND... I WILL BE RELAXED...
THE HYPNOSIS WORKS! SOON ALL THE SCIENTISTS ARE GOING ABOUT THEIR TASKS CALMLY AND EFFICIENTLY... HOWEVER, THEY SLOWLY BEGIN TO COMPLAIN...
...SURE, I FEEL A BETTER THAN I USED TO, BUT I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING HYPNOTIZED!
IT'S AS THO' THEY DON'T TRUST US TO DO OUR JOBS!

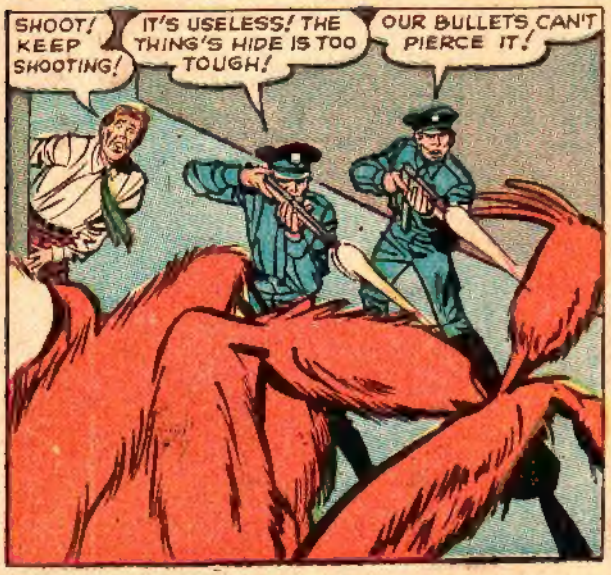
THIS FELLOW BENTLEY--ALL HE DOES IS PUT US IN A TRANCE AND GIVE US A PEP TALK! YET HE MAKES A BIGGER SALARY THAN WE DO!
IT ISN'T FAIR! THE MAN IS NOTHING BUT A GOLDBRICK!

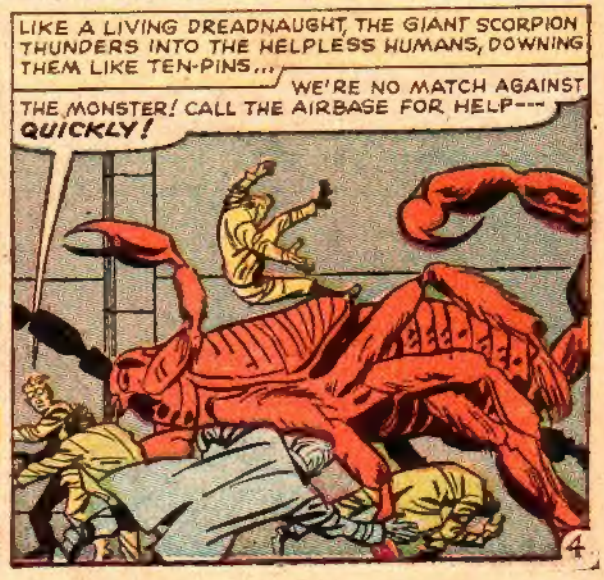

MEANWHILE, IN THE BASEMENT BENEATH THE LABORATORY, THE RADIOACTIVE SCORPION BEGINS TO UNDERGO A FANTASTIC CHANGE...

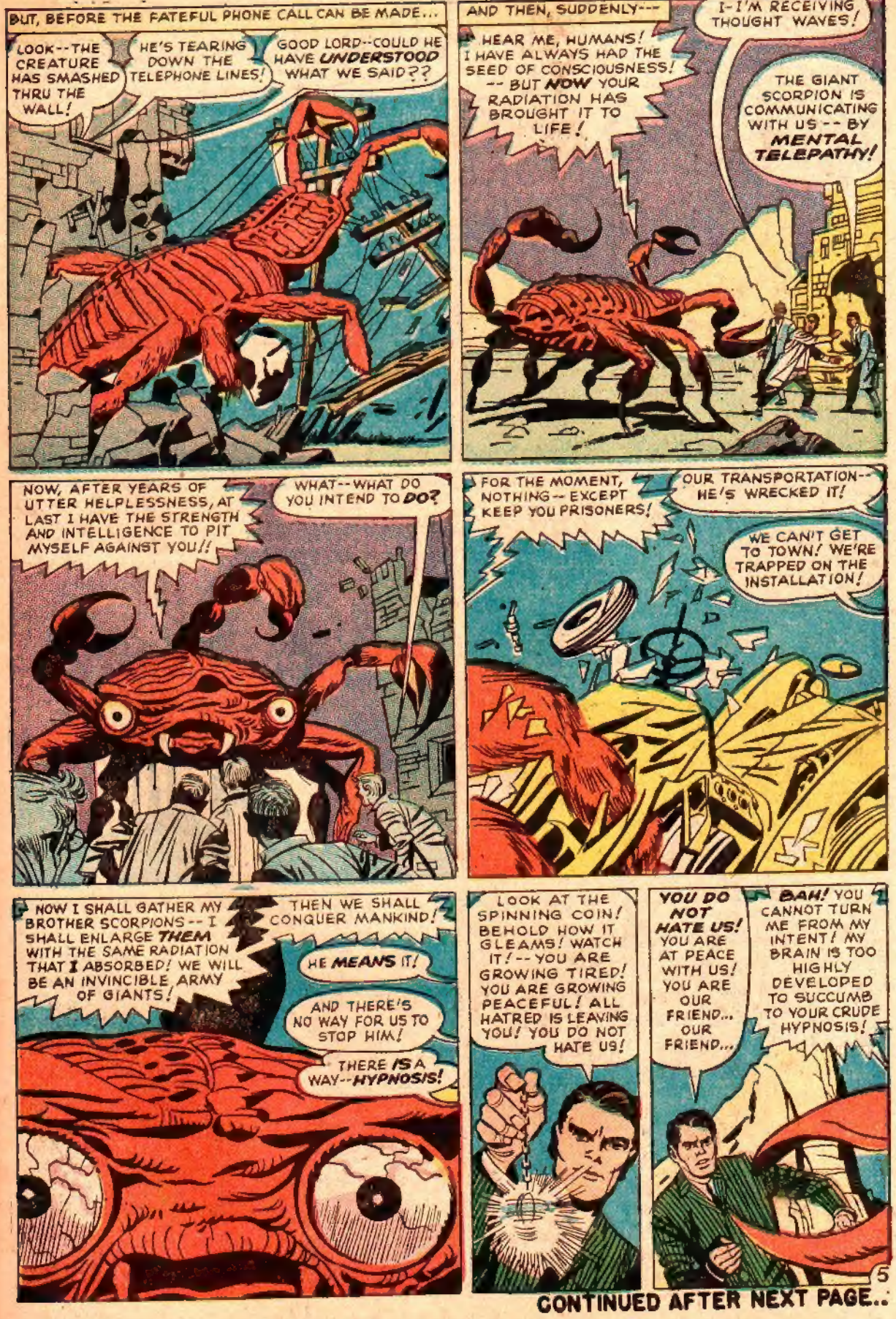

UNDER THE STRANGE INFLUENCE OF THE DELTA PARTICLES, THE SCORPION'S CELLS MULTIPLY AT AN INCREDIBLE RATE--CAUSING THE INSECT'S BODY TO SWELL AT AN ALARMING RATE!

LARGER AND LARGER GROWS THE FRIGHTFUL CREATURE...


UNTIL FINALLY...
GREAT SCOTT!
RING THE ALARM!! HURRY!


SHOOT! KEEP SHOOTING!
IT'S USELESS! THE THING'S HIDE IS TOO TOUGH!
OUR BULLETS CAN'T PIERCE IT!


LIKE A LIVING DREADNAUGHT, THE GIANT SCORPION THUNDERS INTO THE HELPLESS HUMANS, DOWNING THEM LIKE TEN-PINS...
WE'RE NO MATCH AGAINST THE MONSTER! CALL THE AIRBASE FOR HELP--- QUICKLY!


BUT, BEFORE THE FATEFUL PHONE CALL CAN BE MADE...
LOOK--THE CREATURE HAS SMASHED THRU THE WALL!
HE'S TEARING DOWN THE TELEPHONE LINES!
GOOD LORD--COULD HE HAVE UNDERSTOOD WHAT WE SAID??
AND THEN, SUDDENLY---
HEAR ME, HUMANS! I HAVE ALWAYS HAD THE SEED OF CONSCIOUSNESS! -- BUT NOW YOUR RADIATION HAS BROUGHT IT TO LIFE!
I-I'M RECEIVING THOUGHT WAVES!
THE GIANT SCORPION IS COMMUNICATING WITH US -- BY MENTAL TELEPATHY!
NOW, AFTER YEARS OF UTTER HELPLESSNESS, AT LAST I HAVE THE STRENGTH AND INTELLIGENCE TO PIT MYSELF AGAINST YOU!!
WHAT--WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?
FOR THE MOMENT, NOTHING -- EXCEPT KEEP YOU PRISONERS!
OUR TRANSPORTATION--HE'S WRECKED IT!
WE CAN'T GET TO TOWN! WE'RE TRAPPED ON THE INSTALLATION!
NOW I SHALL GATHER MY BROTHER SCORPIONS -- I SHALL ENLARGE THEM WITH THE SAME RADIATION THAT I ABSORBED! WE WILL BE AN INVINCIBLE ARMY OF GIANTS!
THEN WE SHALL CONQUER MANKIND!
HE MEANS IT!
AND THERE'S NO WAY FOR US TO STOP HIM!
THERE IS A WAY--HYPNOSIS!
LOOK AT THE SPINNING COIN! BEHOLD HOW IT GLEAMS! WATCH IT! -- YOU ARE GROWING TIRED! YOU ARE GROWING PEACEFUL! ALL HATRED IS LEAVING YOU! YOU DO NOT HATE US!
YOU DO NOT HATE US! YOU ARE AT PEACE WITH US! YOU ARE OUR FRIEND... OUR FRIEND...
BAH! YOU CANNOT TURN ME FROM MY INTENT! MY BRAIN IS TOO HIGHLY DEVELOPED TO SUCCUMB TO YOUR CRUDE HYPNOSIS!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE..

THE HEAT'S ON

THE city suffered under the onslaught of the summer's first heat spell. It was as though a hugh tarpaulin had been stretched across the tips of the buildings, choking off the free circulation of air and smothering the sluggish civilization below. The streets were damp and steaming. Some strollers were moving slowly, their clothes stained with sudden sweat. It was hot out. What was worse, there seemed no escape.

Even the Tylers were staggered by it. Situated in a snug, suburban home, nothing normally upset this neat family unit of three. The Tylers usually adhered to a rigid routine. John would return from work every day at 6 p.m., promptly peck his wife on the cheek, wash his hands and face, and be at the dinner table by the time Mary had carried the steaming dishes in from the kitchen. Bobby would be at his accustomed place, looking bright-eyed and fresh-scrubbed.

Tonight, everything was different. John sauntered in the door at 6:15, smiled weakly at his wife, stripped off his jacket and shirt and sprawled wearily on the couch. His son flashed a bare greeting. Mary's apron was awry, her hair disheveled, and her figure slumped with fatigue. It was she who finally broke the silence.

"In a way I'm glad you're tired, John," she announced spiritlessly. "Dinner's late. I just couldn't get things started in time today. I don't know what's come over me, but I'll get everything done while you're resting."

"You don't know what's come over you," her husband echoed. "I don't know what's come over this whole town. This heat and humidity is hitting everybody as never before. Nobody has enough energy to do anything. I don't even care about dinner tonight. I'd just like to find some way to keep cool."

"We could buy an air conditioner, John," his wife spoke up hopefully. "In that way we could remain inside and never worry about that old weatherman."

"We *could have* bought an air conditioner," John corrected her glumly, "The first day this heatwave struck, I thought about buying one. I discarded the idea because it represented too big an expense to condition the whole house. Now, I don't care about the expense, but there are no conditioners to be bought . . . *anywhere*. There's been a run on appliance stores, and they don't even have a small window fan left to sell. As a matter of fact, the shopkeepers have closed up and gone home to keep cool. I've checked all over town, and we're just out of luck."

"Maybe I could help out, Dad," Bobby Tyler suddenly piped up. "I can't stand this heat any more either, and the radio weatherman said that there was no relief in sight. It's a sudden, unaccountable switch in weather, but there's no sense in our just sitting around and sorrowing over it."

"Well, you do have the right attitude," his father admitted, "but what could you possibly do to help out?"

"Why I could build us a big window fan that would suck out all the stale air and humidity from the house," Bobby replied with all the poised certain-

CONTINUED

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Address.....

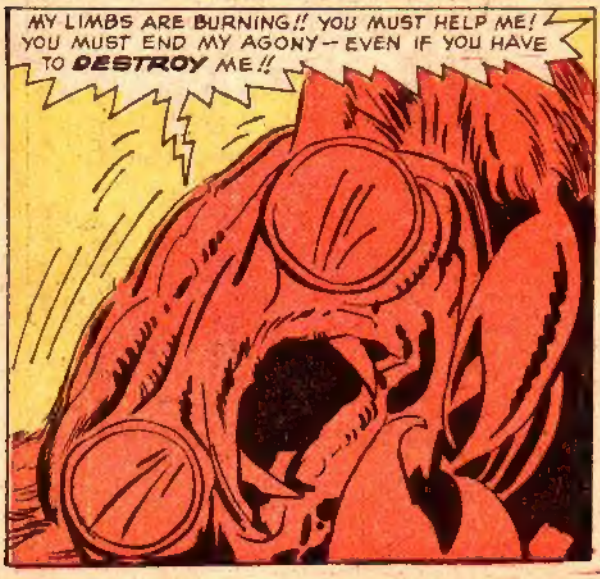
I'VE-- FAILED!
NOTHING CAN SAVE US NOW! NOTHING!
EXACTLY! SO BEHOLD, HUMANS, WHILE I GATHER MY FELLOW CREATURES FOR THEIR TRANSFORMATION!

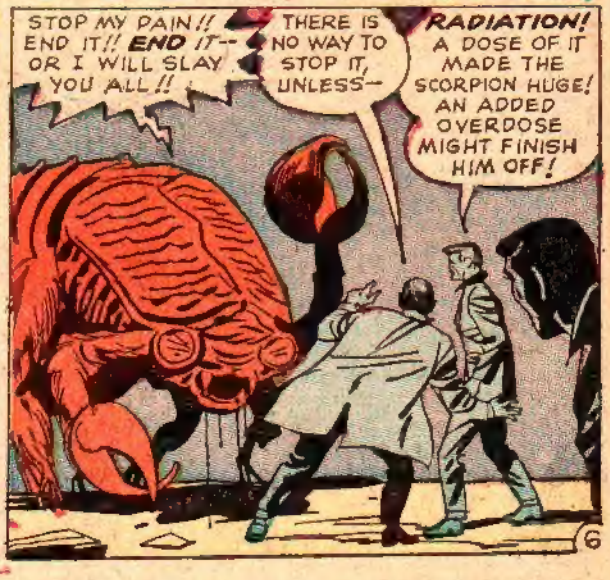
COME, MY PETS...COME TO YOUR LEADER! I WILL GIVE YOU UNDREAMED OF ADVENTURE! TOGETHER, WE SHALL STRIP HUMANITY OF ITS POWER-- FOR WE SHALL BECOME THE RULERS OF EARTH!

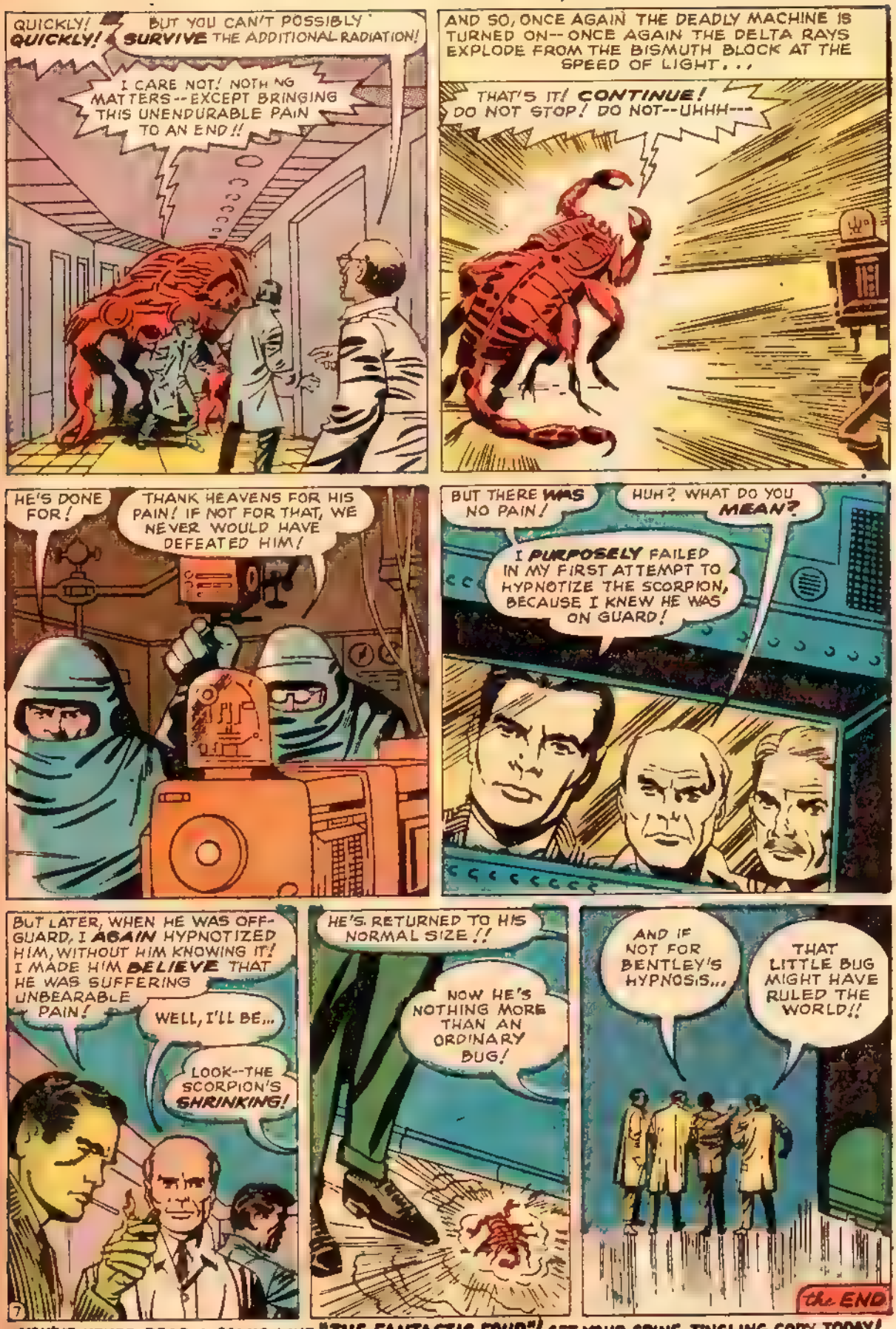
GRIM, HOPELESS MINUTES PASS INTO HOURS AS THE MONSTROUS SCORPION GATHERS HIS SPECIES...

BUT THEN...
YOUR BODIES WILL SOON BE AS GIGANTIC AS MINE, AND--- YOUR-- OHHH-- PAIN-- I'M IN PAIN!

IT MUST BE THE RADIATION HE ABSORBED! IT'S MAKING HIM SICK!
IT'S THE ONE THING WE HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT!
THE PAIN IS GROWING STRONGER! I CANNOT ENDURE IT! MY INSIDES FEEL LIKE THEY'RE ON FIRE!


MY LIMBS ARE BURNING!! YOU MUST HELP ME! YOU MUST END MY AGONY-- EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO DESTROY ME!!


STOP MY PAIN!! END IT!! END IT-- OR I WILL SLAY YOU ALL!!
THERE IS NO WAY TO STOP IT, UNLESS--
RADIATION! A DOSE OF IT MADE THE SCORPION HUGE! AN ADDED OVERDOSE MIGHT FINISH HIM OFF!


QUICKLY! QUICKLY!
BUT YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY SURVIVE THE ADDITIONAL RADIATION!
I CARE NOT! NOTH NG MATTERS -- EXCEPT BRINGING THIS UNENDURABLE PAIN TO AN END!!
AND SO, ONCE AGAIN THE DEADLY MACHINE IS TURNED ON -- ONCE AGAIN THE DELTA RAYS EXPLODE FROM THE BISMUTH BLOCK AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT...
THAT'S IT! CONTINUE! DO NOT STOP! DO NOT -- UHHH---
HE'S DONE FOR!
THANK HEAVENS FOR HIS PAIN! IF NOT FOR THAT, WE NEVER WOULD HAVE DEFEATED HIM!
BUT THERE WAS NO PAIN!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I PURPOSELY FAILED IN MY FIRST ATTEMPT TO HYPNOTIZE THE SCORPION, BECAUSE I KNEW HE WAS ON GUARD!
BUT LATER, WHEN HE WAS OFF-GUARD, I AGAIN HYPNOTIZED HIM, WITHOUT HIM KNOWING IT! I MADE HIM BELIEVE THAT HE WAS SUFFERING UNBEARABLE PAIN!
WELL, I'LL BE...
LOOK -- THE SCORPION'S SHRINKING!
HE'S RETURNED TO HIS NORMAL SIZE!!
NOW HE'S NOTHING MORE THAN AN ORDINARY BUG!
AND IF NOT FOR BENTLEY'S HYPNOSIS...
THAT LITTLE BUG MIGHT HAVE RULED THE WORLD!!
the END

YOU'VE NEVER READ A COMIC LIKE "THE FANTASTIC FOUR"! GET YOUR SPINE-TINGLING COPY TODAY!

I AM THE PRISONER OF THE VOODOO KING!

THERE WERE MANY PEOPLE LEAVING THE JUNGLE OUTPOST THAT DAY...
BUT I WAS THE ONLY ONE HANDCUFFED TO A COP!
WE'LL SOON HAVE YOU BEHIND BARS WHERE YOU BELONG!
YEAH... GUESS SO...
BOY, WHAT A SCORCHER! I COULD SURE USE A COOL DRINK!
THIS IS MY CHANCE--
HEY, LOOK! THAT WOMAN'S GONNA JUMP OVERBOARD!
HUH--?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? SHE'S JUST STANDING THERE, LEANING ON THE RAILING!
OH, I-- I THOUGHT SHE WAS GETTING READY TO JUMP!
THIS HEAT MUST BE MAKING YOU BALMY! DRINK UP, YOU'LL FEEL BETTER!
YEAH, GUESS, YOU'RE RIGHT!
OHH--MY HEAD... I'M--I'M D.ZZY... I--UHHHH...
THE MICKEY PUT HIM TO SLEEP! NOW ALL I NEED IS THE KEY TO THE HANDCUFFS!
BY THE TIME HE WAKES UP I'LL BE SAFELY HIDDEN BACK ON SHORE!
2

WHEW-- I MADE IT! JUST ONE JUMP AHEAD OF THOSE CROCS!
NOW I GOTTA GET BACK TO CIVILIZATION!
WAIT-- THAT SMOKE... THOSE DRUMS!
IT'S A VOODOO TRIBE!!
HOLY MACKEREL! THAT UGLY STATUE THEY'RE WORSHIPPING IS MADE OF SOLID GOLD! IT MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE!!
IF I COULD ONLY SNATCH IT AND CARRY IT OUT OF THE JUNGLE-- I COULD SELL IT AND LIVE LIKE A KING FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
BUT THE VOODOOS WOULD KILL ANYONE THEY CAUGHT STEALING THE STATUE! IS IT WORTH THE RISK? I-- I DON'T KNOW!
BUT I'LL NEVER WALK INTO ANOTHER SETUP LIKE THIS! I CAN'T PASS IT UP! I'VE GOTTA TAKE THE CHANCE!
FIRST, I'LL DRAW THEIR ATTENTION OVER HERE!
GER-RON-NNIMO!! YEOOOWWEEEE!!
AND WHILE THEY'RE RUSHING TO WHERE I WAS, I'LL JUST GO TO WHERE THEY AIN'T!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

Ever think of the big money you could earn as an Auto Mechanic?

You can't appreciate your opportunities for success in the auto-repair field unless you weigh a few facts. Did you know that 68 million cars and trucks are now on the road? That 44 million of these are in the heavy-repair class? That America is short 100,000 mechanics? That only 10 percent of the required number to fill waiting jobs are in training? That there is enough work for 25,000 more automotive repair shops?

Now is the time to train for a better job, high pay, steady work! "The earning power of a qualified mechanic is comparable to that of a college graduate," a famous "mechanics" magazine reports. *Train at home in spare time* for a bright future as an auto mechanic. The coupon brings free information. Be sure to mail it today!

So practical many students earn cash in spare time

CTI training is practical. You are encouraged to gain skill as you acquire knowledge. Thanks to this thoughtful feature, many students are able to repair autos and trucks soon after enrolling. They work evenings and week-ends; on their own or in neighborhood shops. The profits help pay tuition and buy extra equipment. The experience develops confidence as it perfects skill. Remember: CTI instruction is easy to understand, well illustrated and to the point.

You learn *by practicing* with tools and tune-up kit

To help you acquire practical experience as you train, CTI sends (and shows you how to use) an engine tune-up kit and a set of mechanic's tools, including a socket set. Precision instruments include a compression tester for your garage and fuel pump tester; ignition timing light; and portable steel case. Instruments help you locate engine troubles quickly. Tools speed your training, inspire confidence, and let you earn spare-time profits. No extra charge for CTI professional-quality kits. (Tune-up kit is a CTI "first.")

Go in business for yourself

If you like the independence that a business of your own brings, the auto field offers a welcome hand. You can start right in your own back yard, as many students have done. Your tools and tune-up kit, which CTI sends as part of your training, are all you need at first. Some of our shop-owner graduates have never worked for anyone else as mechanics.

Top income for specialists

Surveys show that specialists earn more money than all-around mechanics. Tune-up, automatic transmission and electric specialists are much in demand, and highly paid. It's easier, and requires less investment, to open a shop that concentrates on one phase of repair. In addition to full training on all repair subjects, CTI also sends you instruction on Diesel Mechanics or Body and Fender Rebuilding, at no extra cost. *Get total training!*

What do CTI students say?

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NOW TO GRAB THAT HUNK O'GOLD... AND SCRAM OUTA HERE!
BUT AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT...
BEHOLD! AN INFIDEL!!
HE SEEKS TO STEAL THE VOODOO KING!!
OH, MIGHTY POWERS OF DARKNESS--DESTROY THE DEFILER, WITH A WALL OF FIRE!!
AND, AT THAT MOMENT, AN HERB MIXTURE, SCATTERED ON THE GROUND NEAR THE STATUE, SUDDENLY ERUPTED INTO FLAME!!
GASP! LUCKY FOR ME MY CLOTHES ARE STILL WET FROM THE RIVER!
I'VE GOT IT!!
JUST AS I FIGURED--THEY WON'T DARE TRY TO STOP ME WHILE I'M HOLDIN' THEIR SACRED IDOL!
HEY!! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?! THE BRANCHES OF THOSE TREES... THEY'RE TURNING INTO SNAKES!!
4

BAH! THEY CAN'T SCARE ME WITH THAT CORNY VOODOO MAGIC!
HAH! I KNEW IT, THEY'RE NOT REAL SNAKES! IT WAS JUST SOME KINDA ILLUSION!
I PUT THE VOODOOS BEHIND ME, BUT I'M NOT IN THE CLEAR YET! I'VE GOTTA KEEP MOVING! IF -- IF ONLY THIS STATUE WASN'T SO BLASTED HEAVY!
ON AND ON I RAN, UNTIL FINALLY I REACHED A PEACEFUL NATIVE VILLAGE!
TOO... TIRED! HAVE TO STOP AND REST AWHILE! (GASP)
NO... NO...
SHUT UP! MAKE A RACKET AND I'LL CLOBBER YA!
YOU--YOU STEAL VOODOO KING! VOODOO KING HAS CURSE!
I WARNED YOU TO SHUT UP! NOW I'LL SHUT YA UP FOR GOOD!
JUST LET ME PUT THIS HUNK OF GOLD DOWN, AND I'LL QUIET YOU REAL PERMANENT!
HEY-- I CAN'T LET GO OF THE THING!!

WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?? NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY--HOW MUCH I SHAKE-- I CAN'T GET LOOSE FROM THE STATUE!!
IS VOODOO CURSE! VOODOO CURSE!
YOU... PICK UP THAT AX! TRY TO HACK THE STATUE OFFA ME!
BUT EACH TIME THE BOY STRUCK THE GOLD FIGURE...
AAHHHH--STOP!! STOP!! I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN!
IT'S IMPOSS BLE--AND YET IT'S TRUE!! THE STATUE IS ACCURSED!! IT'S BECOME ATTACHED TO ME!! IT'S A PART OF ME--JUST LIKE MY ARMS AND LEGS!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?? I GOT A STATUE WORTH MILLIONS, BUT I CAN'T SELL IT TILL THE CURSE IS OFF ME!
AND IF I GO BACK TO THE VOODOOS TO GET THEM TO REMOVE THE CURSE, THEY'LL KILL ME FOR STEALING THEIR SACRED STATUE!
SO HERE I AM NOW... WONDERING--THINKING--HOPING FOR A MIRACLE I DON'T DESERVE...
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME--??
WHAT??-- WHAT--???
The END
6

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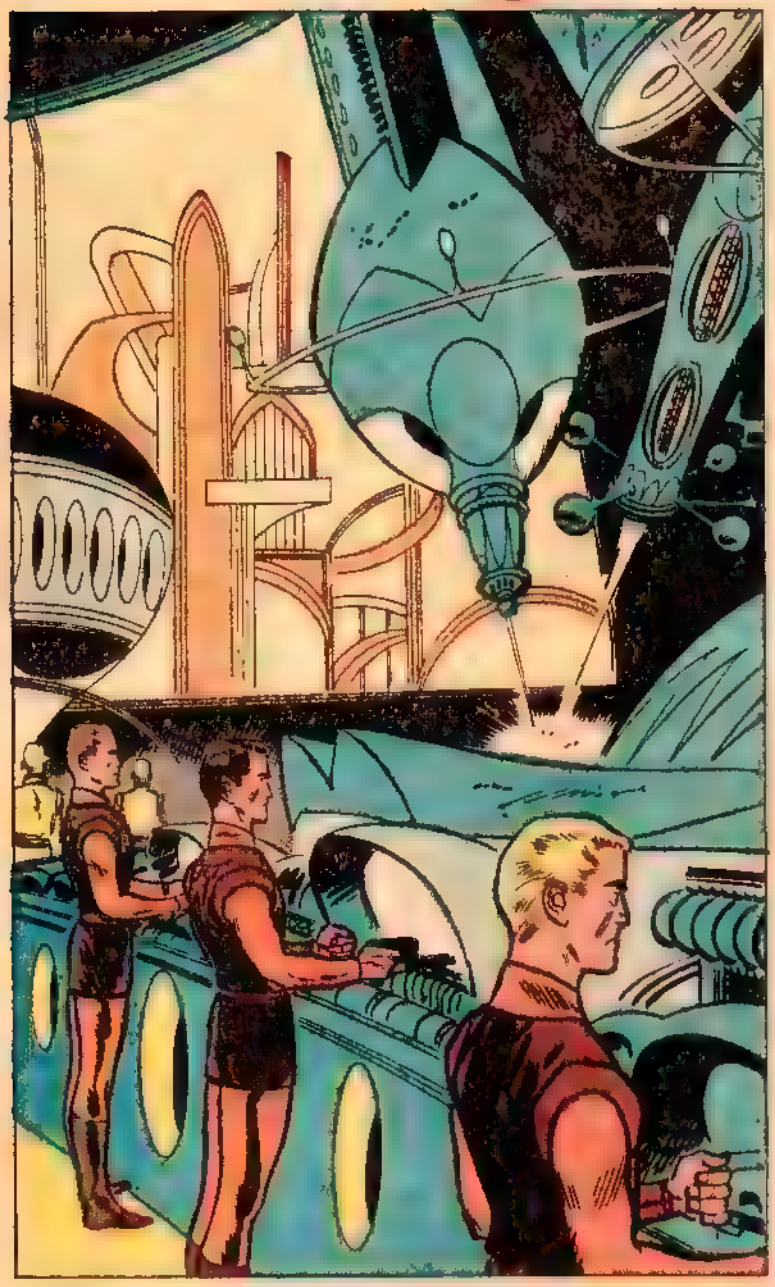
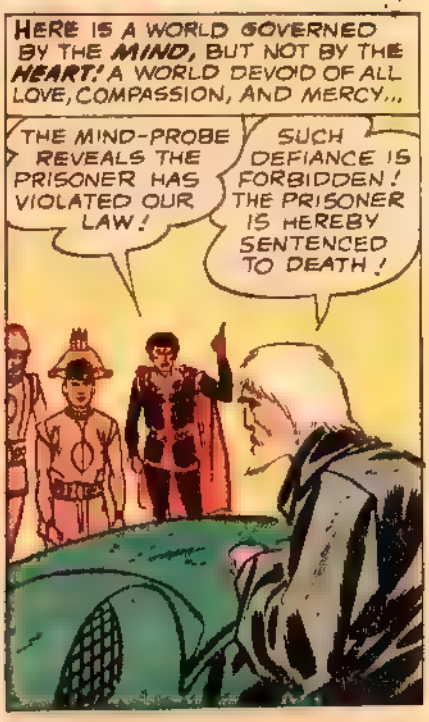
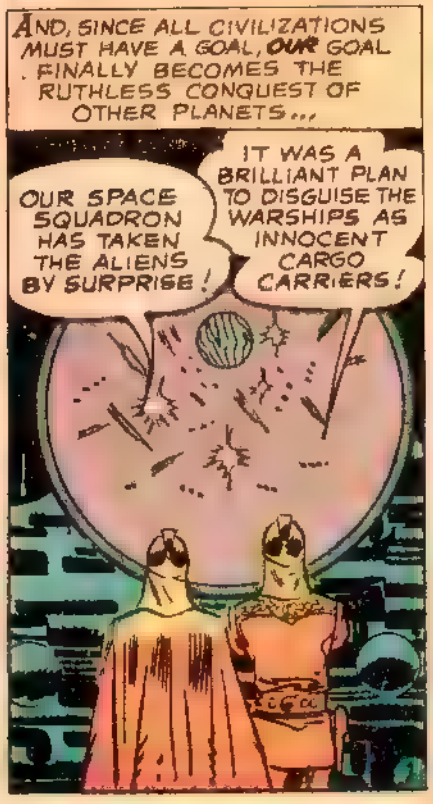
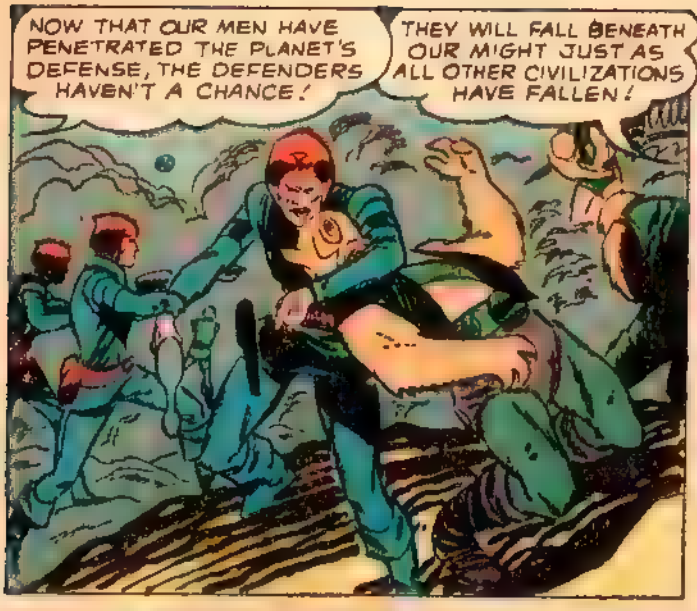
"The Next GALAXY"

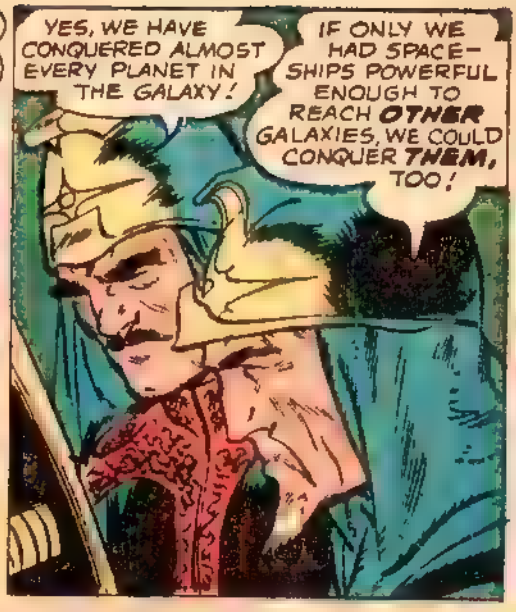


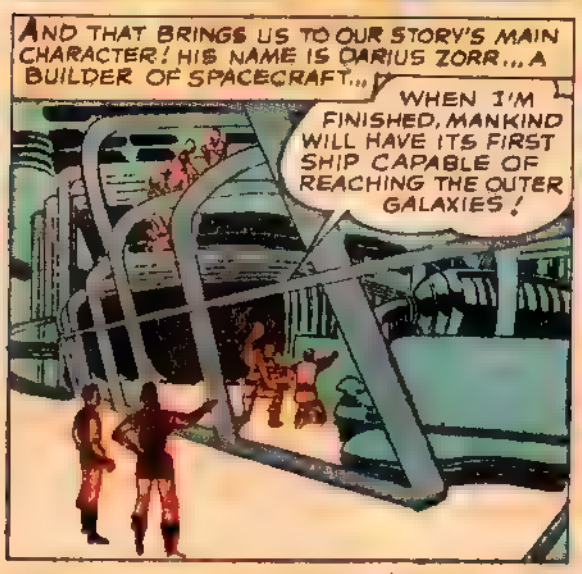
YOU ARE GAZING AT A SCENE A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE FUTURE... AT A TIME WHEN EARTH WILL BE THE MOST SCIENTIFICALLY ADVANCED OF ALL THE PLANETS! BUT IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY YOU WILL SEE SOMETHING MISSING! IT IS... HUMAN WARMTH! FOR IN THIS YEAR 2962, MEN HAVE BECOME AS COLD AND IMPASSIONATE AS THE MIGHTY MACHINES THEY OPERATE!

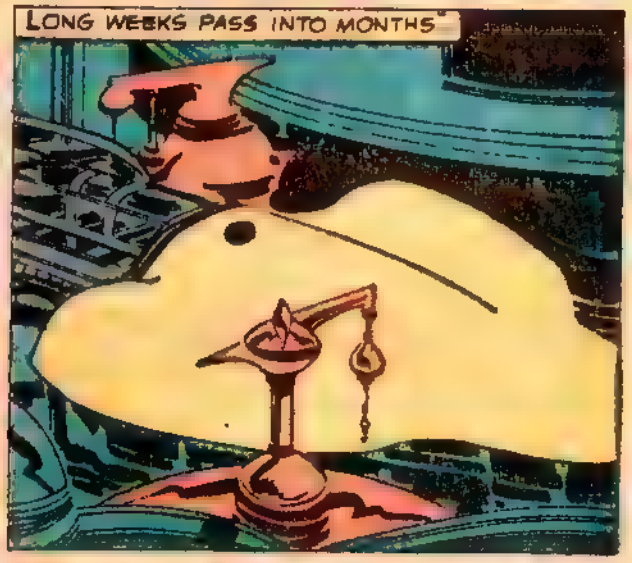

HERE IS A WORLD GOVERNED BY THE MIND, BUT NOT BY THE HEART! A WORLD DEVOID OF ALL LOVE, COMPASSION, AND MERCY...
THE MIND-PROBE REVEALS THE PRISONER HAS VIOLATED OUR LAW!
SUCH DEFIANCE IS FORBIDDEN! THE PRISONER IS HEREBY SENTENCED TO DEATH!


AND, SINCE ALL CIVILIZATIONS MUST HAVE A GOAL, OUR GOAL FINALLY BECOMES THE RUTHLESS CONQUEST OF OTHER PLANETS...
OUR SPACE SQUADRON HAS TAKEN THE ALIENS BY SURPRISE!
IT WAS A BRILLIANT PLAN TO DISGUISE THE WARSHIPS AS INNOCENT CARGO CARRIERS!


NOW THAT OUR MEN HAVE PENETRATED THE PLANET'S DEFENSE, THE DEFENDERS HAVEN'T A CHANCE!
THEY WILL FALL BENEATH OUR MIGHT JUST AS ALL OTHER CIVILIZATIONS HAVE FALLEN!

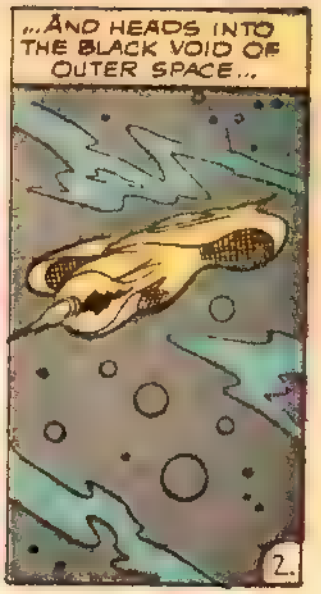

YES, WE HAVE CONQUERED ALMOST EVERY PLANET IN THE GALAXY!
IF ONLY WE HAD SPACE-SHIPS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO REACH OTHER GALAXIES, WE COULD CONQUER THEM, TOO!

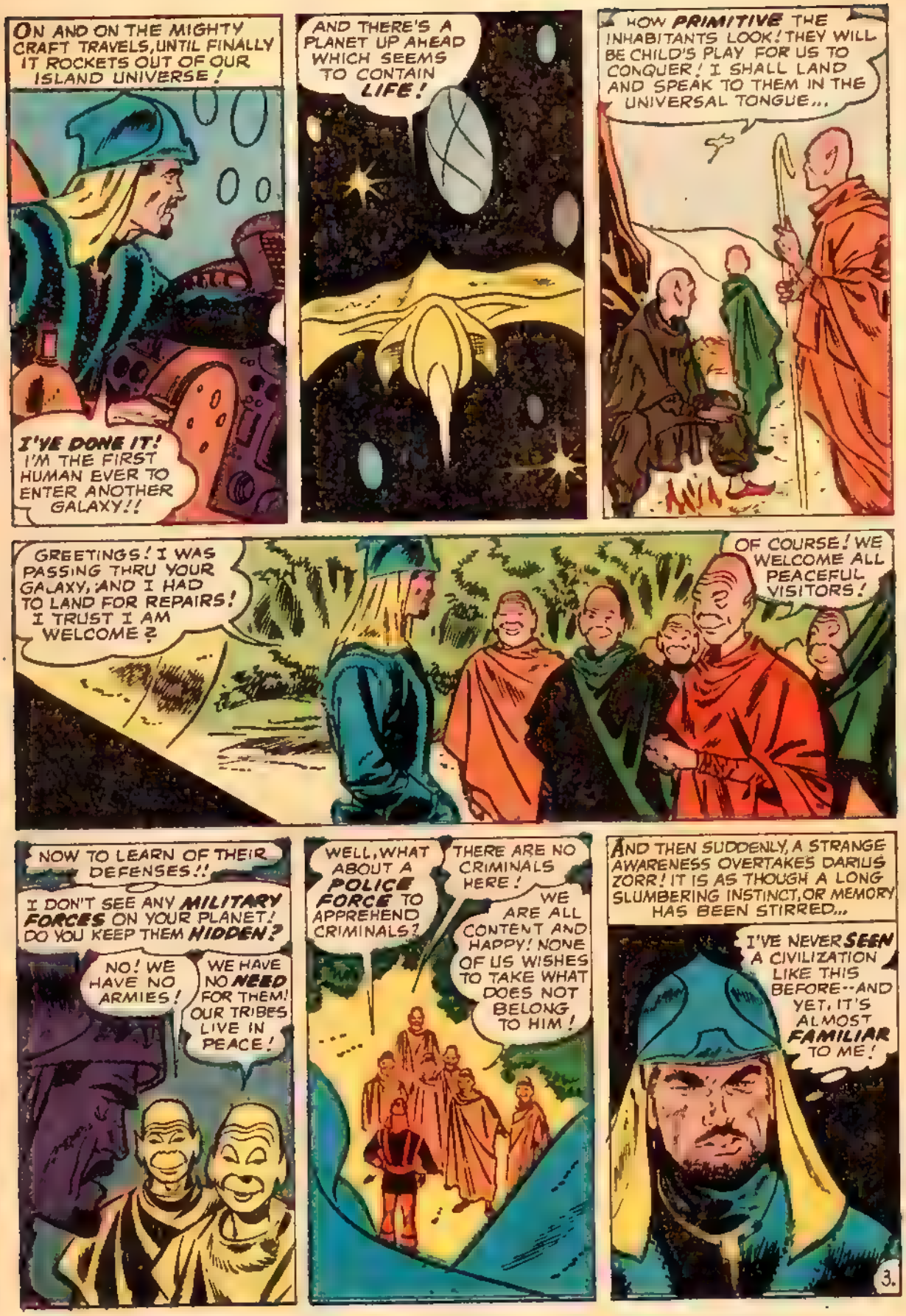

AND THAT BRINGS US TO OUR STORY'S MAIN CHARACTER! HIS NAME IS DARIUS ZORR... A BUILDER OF SPACECRAFT...
WHEN I'M FINISHED, MANKIND WILL HAVE ITS FIRST SHIP CAPABLE OF REACHING THE OUTER GALAXIES!


LONG WEEKS PASS INTO MONTHS

FINALLY, THE SHIP IS COMPLETED...
I, DARIUS ZORR, SHALL NOT FAIL!
YOU MUST LEARN WHETHER THE NEXT GALAXY HAS PLANETS FOR US TO CONQUER
WHEN YOU RETURN, WE SHALL DUPLICATE YOUR SHIP A HUNDREDFOLD AND SEND OUR SPACE ARMY TO CONQUER THE NEXT GALAXY!

MINUTES LATER, DARIUS ZORR BLASTS OFF FROM EARTH...


...AND HEADS INTO THE BLACK VOID OF OUTER SPACE...


ON AND ON THE MIGHTY CRAFT TRAVELS, UNTIL FINALLY IT ROCKETS OUT OF OUR ISLAND UNIVERSE!
I'VE DONE IT! I'M THE FIRST HUMAN EVER TO ENTER ANOTHER GALAXY!!
AND THERE'S A PLANET UP AHEAD WHICH SEEMS TO CONTAIN LIFE!
HOW PRIMITIVE THE INHABITANTS LOOK! THEY WILL BE CHILD'S PLAY FOR US TO CONQUER! I SHALL LAND AND SPEAK TO THEM IN THE UNIVERSAL TONGUE...
GREETINGS! I WAS PASSING THRU YOUR GALAXY, AND I HAD TO LAND FOR REPAIRS! I TRUST I AM WELCOME?
OF COURSE! WE WELCOME ALL PEACEFUL VISITORS!
NOW TO LEARN OF THEIR DEFENSES!!
I DON'T SEE ANY MILITARY FORCES ON YOUR PLANET! DO YOU KEEP THEM HIDDEN?
NO! WE HAVE NO ARMIES!
WE HAVE NO NEED FOR THEM! OUR TRIBES LIVE IN PEACE!
WELL, WHAT ABOUT A POLICE FORCE TO APPREHEND CRIMINALS?
THERE ARE NO CRIMINALS HERE!
WE ARE ALL CONTENT AND HAPPY! NONE OF US WISHES TO TAKE WHAT DOES NOT BELONG TO HIM!
AND THEN SUDDENLY, A STRANGE AWARENESS OVERTAKES DARIUS ZORR! IT IS AS THOUGH A LONG SLUMBERING INSTINCT, OR MEMORY HAS BEEN STIRRED...
I'VE NEVER SEEN A CIVILIZATION LIKE THIS BEFORE--AND YET, IT'S ALMOST FAMILIAR TO ME!
3.

YOU SEEM TROUBLED! ARE YOU ILL?
NO, I'M ALRIGHT! LET ME ALONE FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES! I MUST THINK!
MAY WE HELP YOU?
WHAT IS IT THAT'S FORCING ITSELF INTO MY CONSCIOUSNESS?? WHAT STRANGE REMEMBRANCE HAS THIS PLANET ENVOKED IN ME?
WAIT--IT'S BECOMING CLEAR! NOW I KNOW! AGES AGO--BACK IN THE DIM PAST --MANKIND ITSELF SOUGHT THAT WHICH I SEE HERE!
"YES, THAT'S IT.. MANY, MANY YEARS AGO THERE WERE PEOPLE ON EARTH WHO WERE HUMBLE AND KIND OF HEART... PEOPLE WHO WERE CONTENT TO LIVE OFF THE LAND... "
"ONCE EARTHMEN WORSHIPPED TOGETHER... ONCE THEY CHERISHED THE LOVE AND CHARITY INSCRIBED IN THEIR HOLY BOOKS..."
"AND ONCE EVERY NATION ON EARTH STRIVED FOR THE GOAL OF ETERNAL PEACE!"
YES, HERE ON THIS WORLD ARE THE THINGS MY ANCESTORS YEARNED FOR COUNTLESS CENTURIES AGO!
I CANNOT ALLOW HARM TO COME TO THIS PLANET! FOR... THIS IS MANKIND'S TRUE HERITAGE!
OUR EARTH ARMIES HAVE CONQUERED EVERY PLANET THEY HAVE ATTACKED! BUT THEY SHALL NOT CONQUER THIS ONE!!! I SWEAR IT!
4

AND SO, DARIUS ZORR BOARDS HIS SPACE-SHIP...
THEN, AS HE BLASTS OFF, HE TAKES ONE FINAL LOOK AT THE WORLD EARTH MIGHT HAVE BEEN...
FAREWELL! THOUGH WE NEVER MEET AGAIN, I SHALL REMEMBER YOU ALWAYS!
TWENTY-FOUR SPACE-TIME HOURS LATER...
HERE COMES ZORR!
NOW WE'LL LEARN WHAT NEW WORLDS HE HAS FOUND FOR US TO ATTACK!
WELL, ZORR, WHAT HAVE YOU TO REPORT?
I REGRET TO SAY THAT MY MISSION WAS A FAILURE! I REACHED THE NEXT GALAXY, BUT THOUGH I SEARCHED IT THOROUGHLY, I WAS UNABLE TO FIND ANY SIGN OF LIFE!
BAH!! AND AFTER I HAD FORMULATED SUCH BRILLIANT INVASION PLANS!
I SUPPOSE WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BE CONTENT TO REMAIN IN OUR OWN GALAXY!
WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT!
5
AND, AS DARIUS ZORR WALKS AWAY, WE SEE THAT THERE IS A SMILE ON HIS LIPS AND A LIGHT IN HIS EYE...SUCH AS YOU WILL FIND ON NO OTHER HUMAN...
FOR HIS IS THE FACE OF ONE WHO HAS GAZED UPON A LIVING DREAM! HIS ARE THE EYES THAT HAVE BEHELD WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED... HEAVEN!
THE END

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CONTINUED

ty of a 14-year-old mechanical wizard. "I've been collecting spare parts, springs and a motor from the junkyard. So far, I've just tinkered with them in various combinations, but I'm sure I could rig up a gadget that would do the trick for us."

"Heaven help us if that's the only assistance we'll get," John Tyler responded sadly. "However, if you got the energy and the will-power, go right ahead. Any distraction from the heat is an immediate advantage."

Soon Bobby was busily engaged in sorting a mass of metal parts, a huge motor, an auto fan, and electrical wiring out on the the back lawn. After a short while his project began to take shape. Soon, he sat back and inspected his handiwork. A little rust showed in spots, and some of the screws and hinges seemed a bit worn. Otherwise, the machine seemed sturdily put together.

"I'm all ready to hook her up," Bobby shouted excitedly to his folks inside. "I'll use the outlet in the garage, so that we can test the fan out here first."

When Bobby pushed the switch forward, a powerful whirring sound emerged from the fast-spinning blades. As the fan gained momentum, the soft purr turned to a roar. Bobby watched with glowing pride.

"I think I'll throw it on exhaust now," he announced. "That way we'll see how much suction it has to draw off the heat and moisture from the rooms."

With a deft flick of his finger, Bobby reversed the operation of his machine. Now the noise was stilled almost to a whisper, and Bobby leaned forward to observe its effectiveness. At first, he registered keen disappointment. Then, he glanced upward and his face came alive.

"Look, Mom and Dad," he called incredulously. "It's got such a powerful pull, even the trees seem to be straining in that direction. The limbs are actually leaning toward the fan."

The Tylers managed to throw off their lethargy and join Bobby in the back yard. Their

eyes bulged with disbelief as they gazed at the spectacle around them. The trees and telegraph poles resembled the leaning tower of Pisa and even birds in flight seemed to be drawn down toward the fan.

Suddenly, a strange sight flashed in front of them. An odd saucer-shaped object streaked out of the sky and skidded to a sudden stop in front of the fan. While the Tylers stared wonderingly at it, they became aware of a cool wind whipping at their clothes.

"W-why the heat s-seems to have lifted," John Tyler stammered in surprise. "And what a delightful breeze. But how can we explain it?"

There were many other thankful people who were interested in the explanation, too. They were government observers, drawn to the Tyler home by the descent of the strange out-of-space phenomenon on the back lawn. They were also drawn to the fan which Bobby had so ingeniously assembled.

"The fan must have been hooked up on the same frequency as that space object," one scientist mused. "Without knowing it, the boy beamed it right in here for a perfect landing. Somehow, he destroyed its outer radio control. And once it came down, the pressure of heat and humidity was immediately lifted."

Many people speculated about the origin of the "Outer Space Object" which the government soon declared out-of-bounds. Some insisted that it was just a misdirected meteor. Others silently took to a study of the stars at night.

But on one point, all agreed. Bobby Tyler was a national hero. In some way, he had averted a heat disaster. After undergoing careful analysis of its content and structure, his fan was enshrined in the museum. Since then, there have been no alarming heat waves. Some people have almost forgotten them completely. Some people think they're just a bad dream.

THE END H-366

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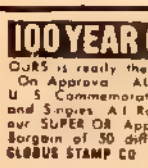

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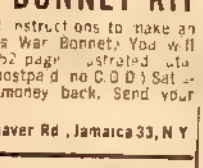

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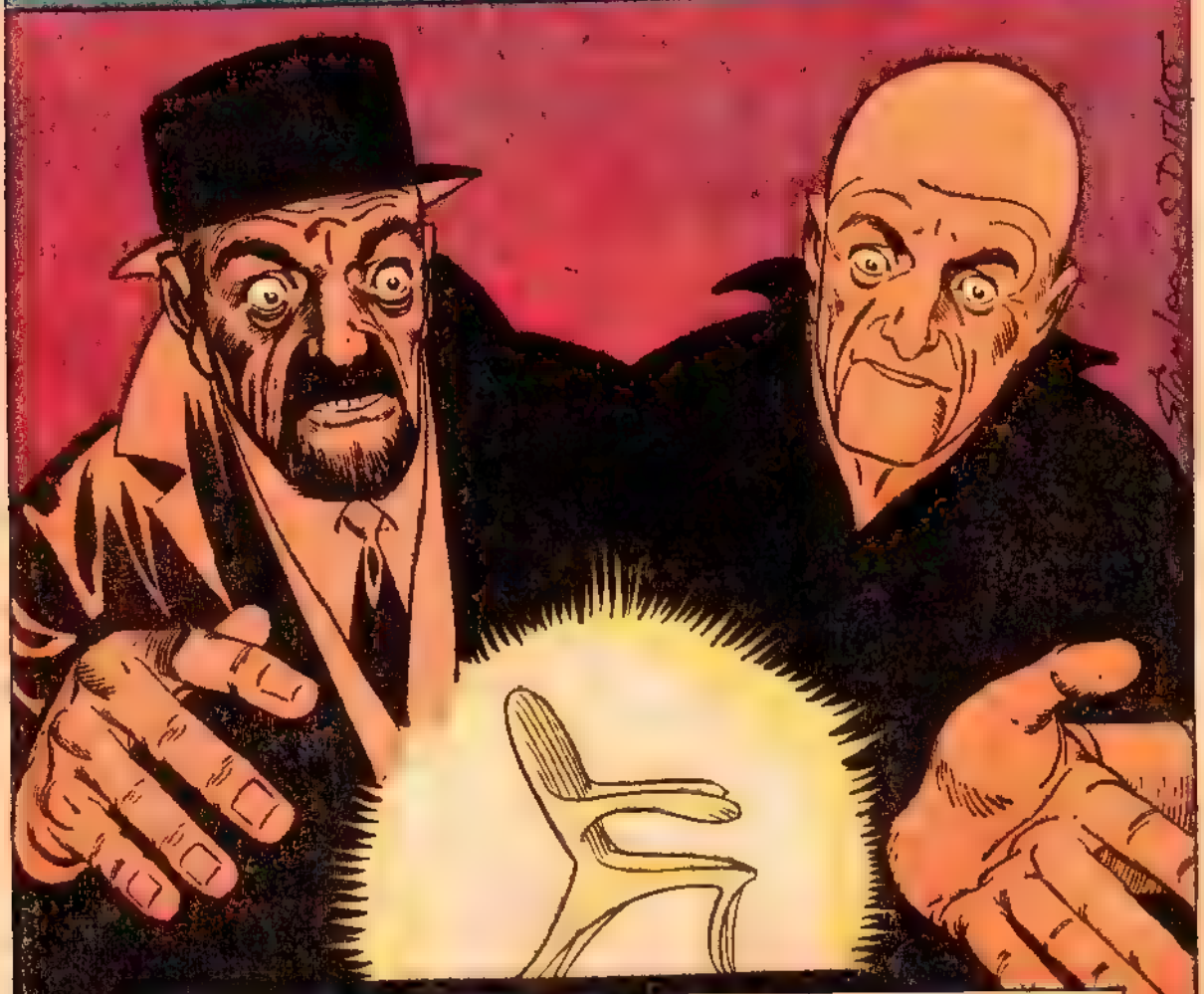
"TAKE A CHAIR"



YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT TO FIND ANYTHING VERY FANTASTIC IN THE TALE OF A *CHAIR*, WOULD YOU? --- IT JUST GOES TO SHOW HOW *WRONG* YOU CAN SOMETIMES BE!

ONCE UPON A TIME, KIDDIES, THERE WERE TWO CHAIR DESIGNERS...

ONE WAS GORGI GRUFF; GORG HAD A SIMPLE METHOD OF DESIGNING CHAIRS...

I'LL STEAL SOMEONE ELSE'S DESIGNS AND USE THEM FOR MY CHAIRS!

THE OTHER WAS ADAM ABLE, AND HE HAD A FAR DIFFERENT METHOD...

NO MATTER HOW HARD I HAVE TO WORK, I'LL MAKE THIS THE WORLD'S MOST COMFORTABLE CHAIR!

AND SO, IN THE SHOP OF GORGI GRUFF...

NO, I DON'T CARE FOR ANY OF THESE CHAIRS, GRUFF!

THEY'RE TOO MUCH LIKE EVERY OTHER CHAIR!

GRUFF CHAIRS

WELL, TRY THIS ONE, THEN!

BAH! AS BAD AS ALL THE REST!

FORGET IT! YOUR CHAIRS ARE JUST POOR IMITATIONS OF A MILLION OTHER! WE'RE NOT INTERESTED!

LET'S GO, DEAR!

BUT...

BUT, IN THE SHOP OF ADAM ABLE...

WONDERFUL! SUPERB!

ABLE CHAIRS

THIS IS THE MOST COMFORTABLE CHAIR I'VE EVER SAT IN, ABLE!

THANK YOU! I WORKED VERY HARD ON IT, SIR!

AND SOON ABLE'S FAME SPREADS!

MY NEIGHBOR BOUGHT ONE OF YOUR CHAIRS AND HASN'T STOPPED RAVING ABOUT IT!

MINE, TOO!

GOOD!

IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT ONE DAY THE PATHS OF GORGI AND ABLE WOULD CROSS ' LIKE THIS ..
WHY WON'T YOUR STORE BUY MY CHAIRS TO SELL, MR. VORT ?
BECAUSE ABLE'S DESIGNS ARE BETTER!
FROM NOW ON, MY STORE WILL CARRY ONLY ABLE'S CHAIRS!
I'LL BUY AS MANY AS YOU CAN PRODUCE, ABLE!
WONDERFUL! I'LL START WORKING ON NEW ONES IMMEDIATELY, MR. VORT!
ADAM ABLE! BAH! IF NOT FOR HIM VORT MIGHT HAVE BOUGHT MY CHAIRS!
HIS CHAIRS ARE WONDERFUL ! BETTER THAN ANY OTHERS ! BUT HOW DOES HE DO IT ! HOW DOES HE MANAGE TO DESIGN A CHAIR SO MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE THAN ANY OTHERS???
HE DOESN'T EVEN CHARGE HIGH PRICES! HE PRACTICALLY GIVES 'EM AWAY! WHY? WHY???
WAIT! I'VE COPIED OTHER DESIGNS IN THE PAST! WHY COULDN'T I COPY HIS?? ALL I HAVE TO DO IS STEAL ABLE'S PLANS, AND THEN... FIND SOME WAY TO GET RID OF HIM... PERMANENTLY!
3

AND SO, THAT VERY NIGHT...
THIS IS ABLE'S WORKSHOP!
DO NOT MAKE A FALSE MOVE!
WHO...WHO ARE YOU?!! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I WANT YOUR SECRET! THE SECRET OF MAKING THE WORLD'S MOST COMFORTABLE CHAIR!
THERE IS NO SECRET! YOU JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW!
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU! YOU MUST HAVE SOME TRICK...SOME GIMMICK WHICH YOU CAN TELL ME! AND IF YOU DON'T TELL ME...
I SUSPECT YOU WILL SHOOT ME EVEN IF I DO TELL YOU!
MAYBE, BUT YOU STILL BETTER TALK! HOW DO YOU MAKE THIS CHAIR SO COMFORTABLE? IT FEELS AS THOUGH IT IS CHANGING ITS SHAPE TO FIT MY BODY PERFECTLY!
TALK!! OR ELSE!
PUT THAT GUN AWAY! IT DOES NOT FRIGHTEN ME!
BUT, SINCE YOU WISH TO LEARN MY SECRET, I SHALL REVEAL ALL MY SECRETS!
WHA...!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
4

I AM REVEALING MY TRUE IDENTITY! I AM FROM THE PLANET ORRGO... I HAVE BEEN SENT TO EARTH TO MAKE A STUDY OF YOU HUMANS!
YOU...YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
WE... NO MATTER WHAT YOU ARE I STILL WANT YOUR SECRET!
FOOL! YOU ARE CLOSER TO IT THAN YOU SUSPECT!
THE REASON MY CHAIRS ARE SO COMFORTABLE... THE REASON THEY SEEM TO ACTUALLY CHANGE SHAPE TO FIT YOUR BODY PERFECTLY IS... THEY ARE MORE THAN THEY SEEM TO BE!
I NEEDED ROBOT SPIES TO STUDY MANKIND, TO MAKE REPORTS OF PEOPLE'S WORDS AND ACTIONS! AND I HAD TO DESIGN MY ROBOTS IN SUCH A WAY THAT NO HUMAN WOULD SUSPECT WHAT THEY REALLY WERE!
YOU... YOU MEAN...!!!
THAT IS WHY I DID NOT FEAR YOUR WEAPON! HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY HARM ME WHEN YOU HAVE PUT YOURSELF AT THE MERCY OF... MY SPY?!?!
AND NOW YOU KNOW MY SECRET AT LAST! BUT, I DOUBT THAT IT WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD! I DOUBT THAT ANYTHING WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD EVER AGAIN!
the END

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..... 1.25

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Albert Dorne — probably the greatest money-maker in the history of commercial art. At the height of his career, he began a full-time search for people who like to draw.

He's Looking for People Who Like to Draw

TODAY HUNDREDS of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working happily at easels and drawing boards, making pictures, and getting well paid for it. They all can thank Albert Dorne, a famous artist who devotes almost his full time to helping other people become artists.

Some of the people Dorne has helped

Herb Smith was a payroll clerk. Soon after he started studying with us, he landed an art job with a large printing firm. This was four years ago; today he's head artist for the same firm.

John Busketta is another. He was a pipefitter's helper in a big gas company. Today he still works for the same company, but as an artist in the advertising department, with a big increase in pay.

Harriet Kuzniewski was bored with an "ordinary" job before she heard of Albert Dorne. Today she does high-style fashion illustration in New York.

With the right training, Wanda Pickulski gave up her typing job to become fashion artist for a local department store.

John Whitaker of Memphis was an airline clerk two years ago. Recently he won a national cartooning contest and was signed to do a newspaper comic strip.

Long before Albert Dorne started looking for people who like to draw, they came to him for advice and help. Since he alone could only help a few of these people he called together America's most successful artists —men like Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Stevan Dohanos and Al Parker.

A Plan to Help Others

He said: "All over America, there are people who like to draw, who could be turned into good artists. Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years? I'm suggesting a new kind of school—a home-study art school that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live."

America's 12 Most Famous Artists

Norman Rockwell	Fred Ludekens
Jon Whitcomb	Ben Stahl
Al Parker	Robert Fawcett
Stevan Dohanos	Austin Briggs
George Giusti	Harold Von Schmidt
Peter Helck	Albert Dorne

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they spent several years creating a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, the famous artists developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

Albert Dorne is not surprised by the success of his students. "The art field is growing. We keep getting calls from all over the country, asking us for practical, well-trained students who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs."

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the famous artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid $1 for this test, but now the School offers it free and will grade it free. If you show talent on the test, you will be eligible for training by the School. No obligation. Simply mail coupon. It might be your first step to an exciting, well-paid career in art.

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5606, Westport, Conn.

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